

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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USSR

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Factories in Central Asia

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2. The "imeni Voroshilov" must have been added to Tashselmash's designation after World War II. It was not so called prior to the war. The plant was built during the period 1929-1932.

3. The Frunze "Voienny Zavod" No 60 could not have been so named. In the USSR, no military plant was designated as a "voienny zavod". It would have just been called "zavod", with a number after it, if it was engaged in military production. However, up to mid-1941 in Frunze there was no factory with a numerical designation, i.e. a military plant. There was a small old plant in Frunze. I do not recall its name. It had only two or three small lathes and about 30 workmen. The plant developed from a metal machine shop of Czarist times. It manufactured such items as small, simple steamboilers used for heating purposes and "farsunka" (a device to spray oil for locomotives, or for bread ovens). It also did casting. The plant did not manufacture

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ammunition prior to 1941. It probably did so during World War II. There was no other factory in Frunze prior to the war.

4. Tashselmash was a large plant. Had it been in full operation, it could have employed 2000 or 3000 workmen. Incidentally, in all of Central Asia there was not a factory which could make a crankshaft for a car. Crankshafts had to be sent to Novosibirsk to be repaired.
5. Up to 1941, there were no plants in Central Asia which produced both military and civilian goods. Tashselmash up to 1941 produced only civilian goods. All Soviet plants, military and civilian, were under civilian control and under the appropriate civilian ministry. If a factory engaged in military production, or military and civilian manufacture, there would then be a larger staff of the military representative (voennyi predstavitel). A military representative was also to be found at a purely civilian plant, as Tashselmash. He was engaged in planning what the factory could produce for the military during hostilities. If a factory engaged in military production, then the representative checked on methods and schedules in regard to military production. Authority, however, remained in the hands of the civilian director of the plant.

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The factory had been designed for peacetime manufacture of cotton picking machines for all of Central Asia. However, it was claimed that US machines of this type existing at that time were unsuitable for Soviet needs. As a result, the plant did not manufacture them, or any new machines for that matter. It merely repaired agricultural machinery. The Soviet press after World War II wrote that the factory was now producing cotton picking machines. The press also wrote that there were now two "Selmashes" in Tashkent: one - "Sredaz Selmash" (Central Asian Selmash); the other - "Uzbek Selmash."

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7. Tashselmash was the only large plant in Central Asia up to 1941 and the only one which could manufacture ammunition on a sizeable scale in wartime. There were some small plants, as the one in Frunze. The "azotno-tukovii kombinat" (nitrogen fertilizer factory), along with a large electric power station, was in Chirohikstroi. In event of war, it was supposed to produce TNT. There were also three large railway shops - in Tashkent, Kizyl-Arvat, and Andizhan, which were capable of producing arms and ammunition. Later, during World War II, other plants were evacuated to Central Asia.

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